Introduction to the Marriage and Family Therapy Program

2014

Doctoral Degree Program

School of Family Studies and Human Services
Kansas State University
http://www.he.k-state.edu/fshs/programs/grad
INTRODUCTION

This document serves as an introduction to the doctoral degree program in marriage and family therapy at Kansas State University. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), and is one of four doctoral programs in the School of Family Studies and Human Services (FSHS).

DOCTORAL PROGRAM MISSION AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The mission of Kansas State University’s doctoral program is to educate and mentor family scientist-practitioners with the most advanced, cutting edge research training, for the purpose of developing scholars prepared to make significant contributions in academic and clinical settings. Our goal is to develop distinguished scholars who embrace diversity and are highly sought after due to their demonstrated competency as world-class researchers, excellent clinicians, clinical supervisors, and educators.

Students graduating from K-State’s doctoral program in marriage and family therapy will be able to demonstrate competence in five areas:

1. **Marital and Family Therapy**: Students will demonstrate competence in system and relational practice with diverse clientele.

2. **Clinical Supervision**: Students will develop competency in supervision that is sensitive to issues of diversity.

3. **Teaching**: Students will demonstrate competency in teaching.

4. **Research**: Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills as a researcher in the field of Marriage and Family Therapy through their work on their dissertation.

5. **Research Productivity**: Students will publish in professional journals and present research at conferences.

6. **Service and Professionalism**: Students will demonstrate commitment to service and professional involvement.

MFT PROGRAM CLIMATE

The MFT faculty and students work together to create a program climate that:

- values and affirms diversity
- is non-discriminatory
- is positive and empowering
- is safe
- is supportive
- is respectful

STUDENT ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATION

The Marriage and Family Therapy Student Associate Organization is a student-run campus organization with a mission to assist students as they progress through their graduate studies. This is accomplished by: (1) coordinating social events to help students grow closer together and maintain some balance in their lives; and (2) providing a voice to faculty by raising issues and providing feedback relevant to improving the experience of graduate students.

MFT PROGRAM FACULTY

**Dr. Sandra M. Stith, Professor & Program Director**

(785) 532-4377; sstith@ksu.edu

Dr. Stith teaches didactic courses in both the master's and doctoral programs, provides individual and group clinical supervision, serves as major professor for both master's students and doctoral students, supervising theses and dissertations and supervises AAMFT Approved Supervisor Candidates. In her role as MFT program director she is responsible for all aspects of program communication and assists with correspondence with the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE). She also represents the program to the School Director, and works with the other MFT faculty to ensure that the clinical training program operates in a healthy manner and that students’ needs are met. Her research interests are in intimate partner violence, dating violence, and treatment of couples in violent relationships. She is a Clinical Member of AAMFT, an Approved Supervisor, and a Kansas Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist.
Nancy O’Conner, M.S., Clinical Director
(785) 532-2220; noconner@ksu.edu
Nancy O’Conner provides individual and group clinical supervision to both master’s and doctoral students. Nancy is responsible for case management issues, student therapist orientation and training, quality assurance review, clinical budget, and outreach and coordination of contracts for therapy services with the Family Center. She maintains a contract with the State of Kansas providing Home-Based Family therapy training for the Kansas Community mental health centers and private contractors. Nancy is an AAMFT Clinical Member and a LCMFT in Kansas.

Dr. Joyce A. Baptist, Associate Professor
(785) 532-6891; jbaptist@ksu.edu
Dr. Baptist teaches, supervises and serves on committees in both the master’s and doctoral programs, and coordinates the admission to the Master's program. Her research interests include the impact of war deployment on the sustainability of military families, cross-cultural comparison of conflict management and relationship maintenance among emerging adults. Her clinical expertise lies in working with couples and families especially in relation to trauma. She conducts research and trains couple therapists in Malaysia. She is an EMDR Practitioner, a Clinical Member of AAMFT, an AAMFT Approved Supervisor, and a Kansas Licensed Clinical Marriage and Family Therapist. Dr. Baptist is currently serving on the Advisory Board for CASA, the Scientific Advisory Committee for a Kansas Youth Suicide Prevention Project, and as Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Feminist Family Therapy.

Dr. Jared R. Anderson, Associate Professor
(785) 532-4198; jra@ksu.edu
Dr. Anderson teaches didactic courses in both the master's and doctoral programs, provides individual and group supervision, and serves as major professor for both master's and doctoral students. His research interests include the study of marriage across the life course, specifically with couples experiencing chronic illness (type 2 diabetes), military couples, and the development of intimate relationships among young adults in China. Clinically he is interested in working with couples on the brink of divorce and self-development approaches to marriage and relationship education.

Dr. Anderson is a Clinical Member of AAMFT, an Approved Supervisor, and a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

Dr. Amber Vennenm, Assistant Professor
(785) 532-1489; avennum@ksu.edu
Dr. Vennenm teaches, supervises, and serves on committees in both the master’s and doctoral programs. Her research interests include the development of early romantic relationships, the impact of early romantic relationships on later adult romantic relationships, developing and evaluating programs that address healthy relationships, and working therapeutically with adolescents, young adults, and their families in school settings. Dr. Vennenm is a Clinical Member of AAMFT, an Approved Supervisor, and a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

Dr. Jared Duttschi, Assistant Professor
(785) 532-1488; jadmft@ksu.edu
Dr. Duttschi teaches in both the master’s and doctoral programs, provides individual and group supervision, and serves on committees for graduate students. His research interests center on couple and family process, specifically within the formative developmental periods of emerging adulthood, early marriage, and the transition to parenthood. Dr. Duttschi studies couples and families with large, national data sets, using longitudinal, dyadic data analysis to quantitatively examine processes between and within family members. Clinically, he enjoys working with couples wanting to strengthen their romantic relationship, and with families coping with crises and stress. Dr. Duttschi is a Clinical Member of AAMFT and a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
At least 90 credit hours are required for graduation. No more than 30 hours may be transferred in to the program from a master’s degree. In addition, each student will complete a written preliminary examination and/or a doctoral portfolio, and if necessary successfully defend them. Each student will also work with their major professor to write a dissertation and complete an oral defense of the dissertation.
RESEARCH TEAMS
The Research team experience provides an opportunity to work directly with faculty researchers and student colleagues. These direct experiences in collaborative relationships compliment knowledge and understanding acquired in coursework. The research team experience can enhance expertise, foster career goals and advance skills needed for the dissertation. In addition, students may have an opportunity to co-author publications or conference presentations.

SUPERVISION AND CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS
All doctoral students are required to be involved in clinical work during their first two years in the program. Students provide therapy at the Family Center, the on-campus MFT clinic. The facility includes five therapy rooms and a large group room. All rooms have one-way mirrors and state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment. In addition, there may be opportunities for practicum placements at a variety of social service agencies in the area, including a regional medical center and other agencies serving medically underserved populations.

During their second year students are required to supervise master’s students under the supervision of the MFT Faculty who are AAMFT Approved Supervisors.

Students must accrue 1,000 clinical contact hours in order to graduate from the program (including equivalent hours obtained during the student’s master’s degree program).

DOCTORAL PORTFOLIO
Doctoral students are required to complete a portfolio documenting evidence of success in four areas: 1) Publications – two to three publications, two publications if at least one of these publications is single author or first author; 2) Presentations – two to three peer-reviewed presentations at professional conferences; 3) Teaching and/or Outreach – document two of the following: teach an academic course, 6-10 presentations for a local social service agency, or evidence of ongoing work with a specialized clinical population; 4) Leadership - maintain professional membership, pass national MFT exam, and two additional activities, for example, review at least one manuscript for a professional journal, serve as a proposal reviewer for a state or national conference, membership on organizational boards, volunteer work at professional conferences, etc.

Once the portfolio has been completed, the student must complete a defense of the portfolio with the student’s committee. The full committee will then determine if the student has successfully completed the K-State doctoral portfolio requirements.

Students who do not meet the publication requirements of the portfolio must also complete a written preliminary examination.

A SAMPLE PROGRAM OF STUDY
On the next page is a sample plan for completing the doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy. This is not the only way to complete the program. Variations in course scheduling, future plans, and previous coursework should be considered when using this plan. The core doctoral courses are offered every other year, so the order of the program of study depends on when the program is started, an odd or even year. There are a number of courses within FSHS or other departments on campus that could enhance the Program of Study. Because some of these courses are also taught only one semester in each given academic year or in alternate years, be certain to discuss choices of these courses with your advisor.
Fall 2014 PhD Cohort Sample Program of Study

NOTE: This sample program assumes the student is employed 10-20 hours a week.

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<thead>
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<th>FALL 2014 (9 CREDITS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FSHS 983 MFT Research (3)</td>
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<td>FSHS 985 Practicum (3)</td>
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<td>Socio824 Qualitative Methodology (3)</td>
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<td>FSHS 984 Supervision in MFT (3)</td>
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<td>FSHS 986 Practicum in Supervision of MFT (3)</td>
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<td>FSHS 990 Dissertation Proposal Seminar (1)</td>
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<td>FSHS 999- PhD Research in Family Studies and Human Services (credits vary)</td>
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<th>THIRD SPRING (15 CREDIT HOURS)</th>
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<td>FSHS 999- PhD Research in Family Studies and Human Services (credits vary)</td>
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All doctoral students must complete the following before graduation:

- 1,000 client hours, including hours earned in accredited master’s degree
- At least 90 credit hours are required for graduation. No more than 30 credit hours from a master’s degree may be applied to fulfill this
- Successfully defend your dissertation proposal seminar, write the dissertation, and successfully complete your oral defense of the dissertation.

One of the following:

- Successfully complete portfolio with fewer than two publications
- Complete written preliminary examinations and, if necessary, successfully defend them in the oral preliminary examination

OR

- Successfully complete portfolio with at least two publications
# MFT Research Teams Opportunities

## Fall 2014 and Spring 2015

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<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Participant duties</th>
<th>Presentations and publications</th>
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| Stith   | Meta-analysis on risk factors for partner violence | • Write Proposals  
• Write sections of journal articles  
• Use meta-analysis software to analyze data | Journal articles  
NCFR and AAMFT proposals |
| Anderson | The Couples & Diabetes Project: Marital Influences on Disease Management and Metabolic Control | • Reviewing literature  
• Analyzing data  
• Writing journal article  
• Grant Writing | AAMFT/NCFR presentations  
Journal articles |
| Anderson | The Development of Young Adult Romantic Relationships in Mainland China. | • Reviewing literature  
• Analyzing data  
• Writing journal article | NCFR Presentation  
Journal article |
| Baptist | Clinical Research on EMDR | • Reviewing literature  
• Collecting and analyzing data  
• Writing journal articles  
• Writing grants | Journal articles  
Conference presentations |
| Baptist | Relationship maintenance and partner violence in Malaysia | • Reviewing literature  
• Analyzing quantitative data  
• Writing journal articles | Journal articles  
AAMFT/NCFR presentations |
| Venum   | Supporting military families through school-based mental health | • Reviewing literature  
• Grant writing & Project Design  
• Collecting & analyzing data  
• Writing journal articles | Conference Presentation  
Journal Articles |
| Venum   | The development of a relationship education app for young adults. | • Reviewing literature  
• Grant writing & Project Design  
• Participant Recruitment  
• Collecting & analyzing data  
• Writing journal articles | Conference Presentation  
Journal Article |
| Venum   | Relationship Cycling: 1) Relationship cycling & child outcomes  
2) Increasing decision making in young adult cyclical relationships | • Reviewing literature  
• Project Design  
• Participant Recruitment  
• Collecting & analyzing data  
• Writing journal articles | Conference Presentation  
Journal Articles |
| Durtschi | Relationship quality across the transition to parenthood | • Review literature  
• Grant writing  
• Assist in gathering data, managing data, & paying participants in a 15-month study of couples  
• Analyze data  
• Write journal articles | AAMFT/NCFR presentation  
Journal Articles |
| Durtschi | Marital quality in early stages of marriage | • Review literature  
• Analyze data  
• Write journal articles | AAMFT/NCFR presentation  
Journal Articles |
| Durtschi | Links between marital interactions, parenting and child outcome | • Review literature  
• Analyze data  
• Write journal articles | AAMFT/NCFR presentation  
Journal Articles |